

Saturday July 17

Dear Mom + Dad,

We are sitting outside on our "patio" drinking gin & tonics. It is over 90° and very humid, ~~the~~ but in the shade it isn't too bad. Monday thru Thursday I was in Philadelphia for a conference. Vickie stayed home because of her tennis lessons every day. I stayed in a big hotel right downtown and had a good time seeing the city. I like Philadelphia very much - it is rather modern and has lots of bookstores and restaurants. One night I ate at the Old Bookbinder's Restaurant which is a seafood place over 100 years old and near the Delaware River.

We have so many things to do these days that we haven't even been up to Washington for several weeks. We have been going to parties and playing tennis and generally having a good time right here in Fredericksburg. One night we went with friends to eat crab at a place over in Maryland and have also been back to the Chinese place in Culpeper.

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Naturally we are looking forward to our trip to the West Coast. Our tentative plan is to fly to L.A. on Aug. 6 and ride up to S.F. with our friends; returning to L.A. Sunday night. My course is Tuesday to Friday noon at which time we will fly to Portland and then to Seattle Sunday night, Aug. 15. We will fly back to home on Wednesday. This is all assuming I can manage it at the office.

A breeze has come up which feels good, although it may mean thunderstorms later on. We hope to barbecue spare ribs tonight if it doesn't rain.

Jim

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